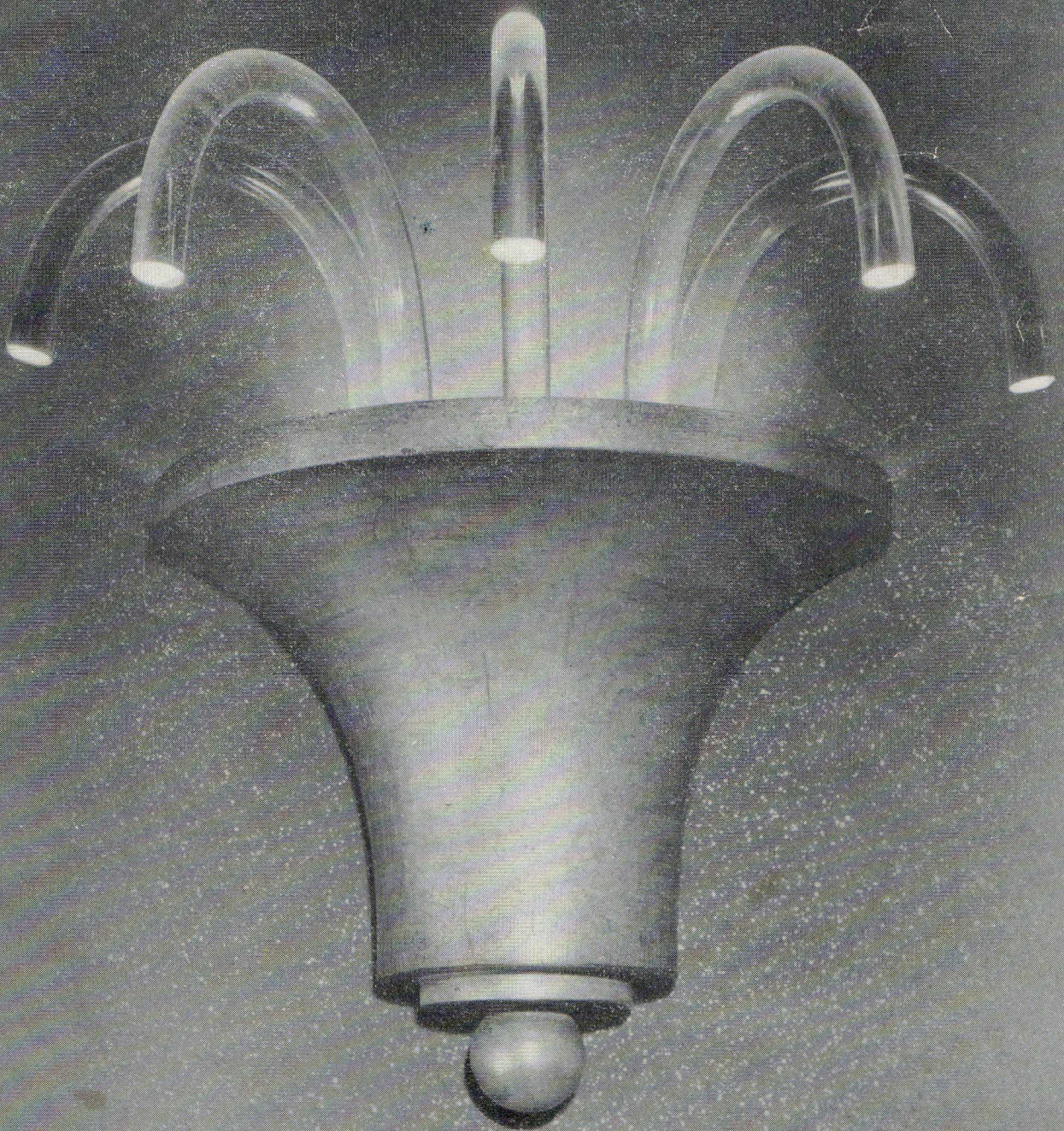


The Northwest **TECHNOCRAT**

OCTOBER 1944

15 CENTS





Editorial

'Worth While to the Growers'

REAL significance of the War Food Administration's price supporting program lies in this phrase—'Worth while to the growers.' At Bakersfield, California, H. P. (Pat) Henry, a representative of the W. F. A., explained that since the W. F. A. had bought up lower grades of potatoes to keep them from glutting the market, the No. 1's brought a price high enough 'to make their marketing worth while to the growers.'

Thus it is clear that the whole aim and object of our agricultural program, even in the midst of a world war, is not the producing of food for mankind, but the making of money. To achieve this end the Government itself will aid and abet the destruction of food, as it has done in the past. But it seems the stench created

by the out-and-out destruction in the depression years was so powerful that it has carried over, and now they hardly dare go that far; so some foods are being converted into feed for livestock instead. Witness, the many carloads of eggs recently sold for 5 cents a case to the producers of protein foods for animals, so the price of fresh eggs for table use could be maintained at a high level.

On August 26, Colonel Ralph W. Olmstead, deputy director of W.F.A.'s distribution division, stated that he then had on hand more than 5,000,000 cases of eggs, containing 150,000,000 dozen eggs, which he had not the slightest idea in the world what to do with. Anybody who wanted them could have them at his own price, provided he did not use them as

food for human beings. (Labor, Aug. 26, 1944.)

In July, because the potato market was in danger of being glutted, some 550,000 sacks of potatoes were dumped over an area of 150 acres near Bakersfield. They were spread out on the ground and allowed to dry, after which they were ground up for stock feed. Said the *Los Angeles Times*:

Of the total of 550,000 sacks of 100 pounds each, nearly 5,000 sacks are Grade No. 1. The remainder are U. S. Commercials and Grade No. 2.... Value of the edible tubers is estimated at from \$550,000 to \$800,000.

Purchase of the 550,000 sacks of potatoes was made mandatory by the Government under the Stiegel Act, which automatically took effect when the prices on the current flooded market dropped to a support price average....

One point brought out by the *Times* is that the project of drying these spuds employed 65 workers to load and haul the tubers to the dump ground and spread them out. Well, that is one way to make 'jobs.' Doubtless the Chamber of Commerce will take credit for discovering it.

The recent corner on black pepper, achieved by 'a few importers', according to an AP dispatch of August 19, is another phase of Price System interference. Representative Andresen of Minnesota told the House that a lack of black pepper, needed to process and preserve meats, 'may result in the spoilage of millions of pounds of meat in the next few months.'

(Continued on Page 11)

How to 'make jobs' and create artificial scarcity, both at once. 65 men were employed at Bakersfield, Cal., to haul and dump good potatoes and spread them out to dry to be ground up for hog feed.



TECHNOLOGY'S TRANSITION DECREE

Neither the chemistry of the dollar bill, the structural strength of a balance sheet, the dehydration of debt, nor the horsepower of a ballot can solve America's problems.

MANY times during the 9 years preceding the present war, the question was asked of Technocracy: 'What effect would a major war have on the outcome of the social change foreseen by Technocracy? Would not a major war bolster the failing Price System, thus tending to postpone the arrival of the Technate?'

Technocracy's answer, as enunciated from coast to coast and from northern Canada to Mexico many times during those years, was emphatically 'NO!' It was pointed out that we would see rising prices, rising production, and the temporary, superficial 'prosperity' that results from the large scale supplying of the sinews of war. It was emphasized that these conditions would stimulate the introduction of more and better technological equipment and increased operating efficiency, thus accelerating our American physical trends and increasing the seriousness of our social predicament, thereby rendering the need for technological control—The Technate—more imperative than ever. With industry geared to wartime destruction, the sudden transference to partial peacetime processes threatens all values.

Events over 4½ years have demonstrated conclusively that once again Technocracy is correct. Every long-term trend previously indicated has been greatly accelerated by the effect of the war, and therefore, as predicted by Technocracy, *America's date with Destiny has been confirmed.* A terrific speed-up in the basic factor—extraneous energy conversion—had been realized, and

a vast acceleration was under way as was indicated by the rising long-term production of kilowatt-hours, iron and steel, automotive vehicles, aircraft, ships, new plants, and by other basic operations at record levels or rapidly overtaking former peaks. Even in 1941, and since that time, all the highest former peaks have been passed. The war-accelerated production has exceeded all expectations.

Even before the end of 1941 the weekly kilowatt-hours consumption passed 3 billion for the first time in our history. Steel production has broken all records every year by exceeding 65 million tons, but it also exceeded the 83 million ton annual rate that same year. There has been no diminishing since that time. We are now geared to almost double any previous peacetime peak, and the threat of peace is a more potent threat to our existing Price System institutions than any threat of war ever could be.

The professional apologists for the Price System look with misgivings upon these events with which they are powerless to cope. They sour indeed when they observe the unfolding fulfillment of Technocracy's predictions and the steady growth and increasing influence of its Continental Organization. John H. VanDeventer, editor of *The Iron Age*, was one of many to make an abortive attempt to refute and 'debunk' Technocracy by an editorial back in the December 1, 1932, issue of his publication, when straw-man destruction in the name of Technocracy was a favorite sport.

This exponent of the traditional Price System operation, (which apologists like to think of as the American Way, but which is in reality the European Way imported to America years ago, and which never was really American) now strikes a queer new note in his editorial lament over the future of his cherished European protege, in *The Iron Age*, the conclusion of which says:

The test of our system and its survival will be in the time to come when the post-war consuming power of our people lags far, far behind the mushroomed production capacity of our factories. Unless, when that time comes, our practical men of vision in industry and business step forward with a plan, they will find themselves and their country vulnerable to the efforts of men and women to whom our traditional system is anathema, and who are already making the blueprints for a new and strange America.

SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE PUMP?

Technocracy asks, 'Can it be that even this staunch defender of the status woe, to whom a new America is "anathema," is now fearfully conscious of the 'handwriting on the wall?' Can it be that he is frightened and plagued by the march of events long foreseen by Technocracy and its Director-in-Chief?' Something must have slipped. They were evidently not inside that 'Iron Age' coffin after all.

No 'practical men of vision' can step forward with any 'plan' to save this Price System, this European Way which is not worth saving anyway. But 'practical men of vision' can and will step forward to save America—the American Way—with science! This is not 1919. This is 1944. Today America's new problem and future bear no resemblance to the problems and future we faced 25 years ago. America is no longer just a country—it is now a Continent with one-fifth of the world's land area to operate and defend. In addition to the internal technological forces of change developed by war, now falls the external pressure of changing international relationships compelling Continental coordination and defense—a force just as powerful in compelling America's final show-down with the Price System. Now come conversion compelled, Continental consolidation, and overall planning which Technocracy has always specified.

Before the very eyes of this generation of Amer-

icans, a new functionally-controlled America is being born; but that birth brings with it a crisis. Our problem is to meet that crisis in time to avoid destruction of a high-energy civilization. Now it is necessary, more than ever before, for every interested American to sustain an 'all out' effort to help Technocracy Inc. build, expand and develop the volume of support needed to guide our America to that great destiny of impregnable defense and abundance.

A NEW ESPRIT DE CORPS

Americans need a new esprit de corps, a Continental viewpoint, and a greater patriotism. That esprit de corps and patriotism must be symbolized by every red blooded American and infused into the public consciousness. That means facing the facts and acting accordingly—now! As Technocrats we have faced the facts about America, and we know that we must assist the public, under transition pressure, to do the same. But along with that, we must also face the facts about ourselves. We must realize that either we sacrifice personal, individual inertia for America or we sacrifice America for our own personal inertia. The question Technocracy is asking now is, 'What are you, personally, going to do for America?' How much pressure of events will it take to get you started moving? Events demand an answer now. Which answer is yours going to be?

Technology is the beginning and the end of the wartime story—technology, enormous and productive. Technocracy has called for this development repeatedly, and now for months the growing impetus of the new war-induced technology has been the most potent social force in all America, compelling social change in spite of our fears, hopes or desires. This is Technology's Transition Decree.

On November 14, 1941, at Fort Worth, Texas, a bomber plant was opened, marking the start of the 3 years' march of power. This plant is 15 blocks long, 5 stories high, has 2,000,000 square feet of floor space, is air conditioned, and has not a pillar, a post nor a window. It is made largely of steel, with spun glass for insulation. This plant now has a twin near Tulsa, Oklahoma. Scores of similar new plane factories dot the country.

The Wright Aeronautical Plant in Cincinnati has a floor space of 50 acres; the main building has 35 acres under one roof. This is sufficient capacity to accommodate six major league baseball games and four college football games simultaneously, 10

games, with 35,000 spectators at each, or 350,000 in all. These plants are filled with man-nour-reducing equipment, and they are built of steel, concrete, and glass,—not out of tarpaper and sheetiron. They are as far ahead of the plants of World War I as those plants were ahead of the bicycle shop in which the Wright Brothers built their first plane. To get a perspective on our current technological development one has to multiply these instances by thousands.

These plants were built to provide the munitions of war—a necessity which America could not escape. They were not intended to produce consumer goods or to raise the standard of living of Americans. Nevertheless they are a productive social force of tremendous potential now.

For years Technocracy has pointed out that private corporate enterprise in America has been failing to expand the productive plant, and was neglecting and suppressing new technological advancements. Now, under the pressure of war (and financed largely by government funds) America is catching up on its technological backlog and moving up to new levels heretofore undreamed of.

EVERY OLD PLANT OBSOLETE

Not alone are these new plants suitable for producing bombs, bullets, guns, tanks, battleships and planes. To make these needed weapons America (in spite of the opposition of private business) has expanded its facilities for producing steel, aluminum, magnesium, paper, cloth, and countless other basic materials. To produce these for war America has expanded its energy conversion facilities, both steam and hydroelectric. These facilities will remain. The new processes will remain. The new plants will produce more in less time with fewer men. They render every old plant obsolete. We have enough of them so there will now be a new America of Abundance whether anyone likes it or not. *No other event surpasses this in social significance, the great mass of public opinion to the contrary notwithstanding.*

This all accentuates the trends pointed out by Technocracy: it will multiply the productivity of America; it will reduce the man-hours per unit produced; bring about the necessity for overall social designing; it will obliterate anarchy and compel coordination.

The total expansion of producing equipment is enormous. The *Domestic Commerce Weekly*, published by the Department of Commerce, stated that,

in dollar volume, the expenditure for new equipment and machinery in 1941 would approximate 9 billion dollars. This was three times the average annual expansion for the previous decade. At that time Technocracy pointed out that this was only the beginning. It was resulting in modernization of a percentage of our equipment, but all of our equipment would have to be modernized. Since that time the government plant has exceeded 26 billion dollars, and it is still expanding in the face of the threat of peace.

The majority of our unemployed have been rendered unnecessary as producers, not by the 70 percent of obsolescent equipment still in use in these United States, but by less than 30 percent of the modernized processes and equipment.

Here is a sample of the productivity of the new machines: In 1941 in the Wright Plant at Cincinnati, an automatic transfer machine for drilling, countersinking, reaming, and tapping aluminum cylinder heads replaced 40 ordinary machines. It required only 24 semi-skilled operators as compared with 105 highly skilled operators on the 40 old machines. It turns out a finished cylinder head every 45 seconds instead of the 32 minutes required by the old method. This is not the complete operation; this machine involves other significant savings. It has been improved and installed in scores of plants since that time.

America was called upon to produce more food with 2,000,000 less farmers, and as one result machinery on the farm got a big boost, making it tough to go 'back to the farm' any more. For instance: (1) In the potato fields of Maine a stone-picking machine picks 'em up at the rate of 12 tons an hour. (2) A mechanical chicken plucker frisks the feathers off 1,500 birds an hour; the wages of the 20 displaced men pays for this gadget in 2 weeks. (3) We can even plant trees by machinery. A machine pulled by a tractor with a crew of three men is planting trees at the rate of 8,000 a day in the Texas shelter belt. (4) An advanced potato harvester which digs, grades, and sacks the spuds as it moves along the rows has been developed by three Shafter, California, men. (5) Another memory of good old days passes; this time it is the bean harvesting with its gangs of men, horses and wagons. Now the rig moves over the row of cut beans at 3 miles an hour and threshes and sacks them as it goes—weeks are cut to days. (6) American me-

(Continued on Page 17)

LEKTRON

THIS REVOLUTIONARY NEW CONCRETE SHIP DEFIES ALL SHIP-BUILDING CONVENTIONS

EIGHTY knots an hour, in a ship upon which 'a hurricane would have no more effect than it would have on a healthy fish'!—a ship streamlined like a huge Dolphin, and impossible to capsize! This remarkable performance is now possible in Lektron, the torpedo-shaped submarineship which travels 70 percent submerged and knifes through the water at a spectacular rate of speed. Strangely enough, this new ship was born in Mojave Desert, from which source is derived the special pumice stone concrete of which it is made.

The radically new construction idea involved in the Lektron is shown in the accompanying pictures. (As it lies on the floor of the desert the framework reminds one of the skeleton of some prehistoric monster.) Because of the strength inherent in the material of the hull this boat requires none of the usual structural beams and girders. Although but $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick, the hull of Lektron has as much strength and is tougher than a 4-inch hull of cement of the kind generally used in ship construction. The Mojave Desert pumice makes a concrete 50 percent lighter than ordinary cement.

The formula of the resilient aggregate is of course a secret; but it is so light and so strong that the entire structure weighs but 22,000 pounds. The concrete mixture is spread over and shaped by wire mesh. The hull is 124 feet long with a 7 foot beam, and the ship travels nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ submerged when

fully loaded. It has a 5,000 mile cruising radius and there is space aboard for 55 tons of cargo. The cost is over \$80,000.

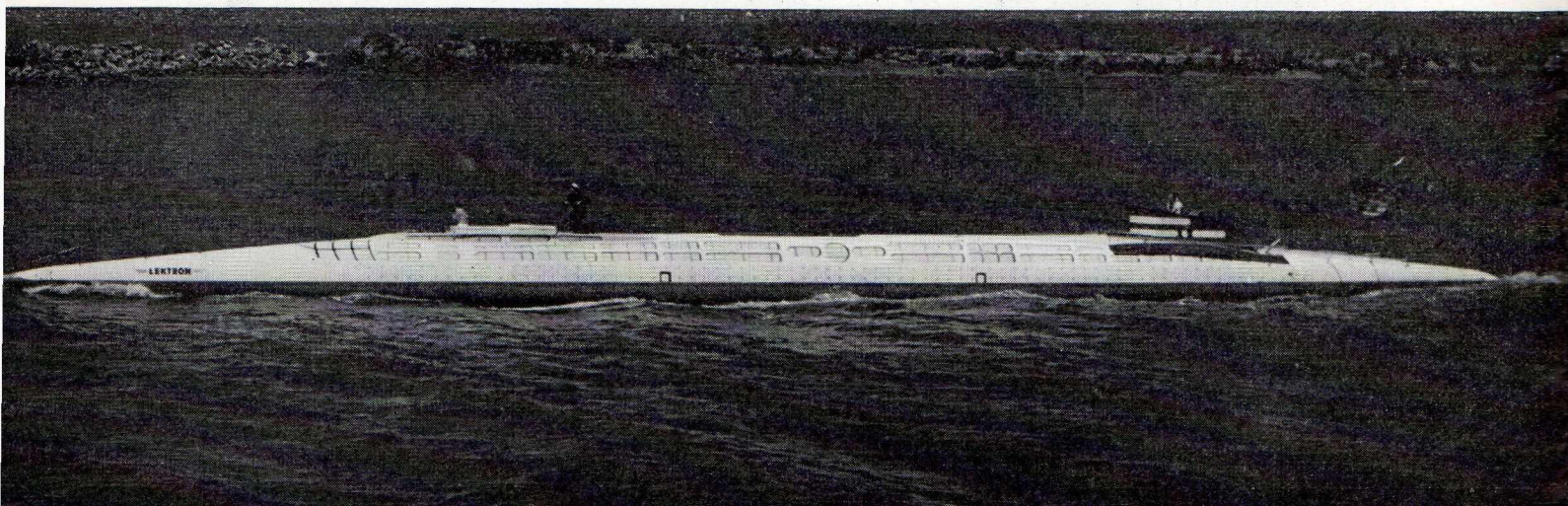
Captain Charles Borden, writing in *Mechanix Illustrated*, says of the builder:

'Hal Hayes, the designer and builder, is a modest, likeable young fellow of 31. Having built more concrete homes than any other builder in the world, he is known throughout the United States and in foreign countries to the builders who use his revolutionary concrete methods as the "Ford of the building industry." Sweeping aside the cobwebs of conventional marine design and shipbuilding, Mr. Hayes, with 12 years' experience in experimenting with and perfecting of concrete in ship construction, applied his knowledge to a design that would dispel the general notion that a concrete ship must be slow and cumbersome. The result is Lektron, the nearest thing to a perfect streamline that has ever been achieved in a sea-going surface vessel.

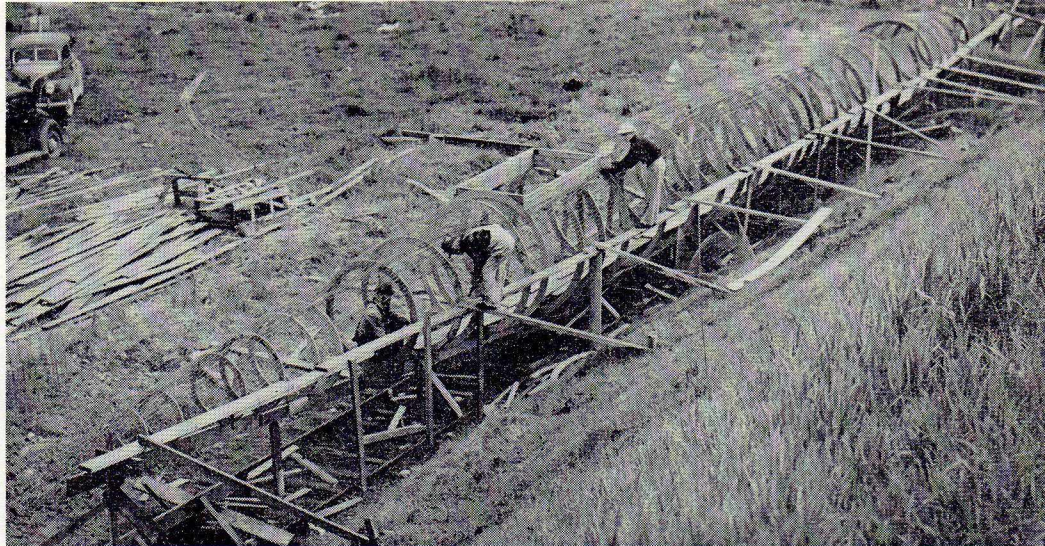
'The most unusual feature of the futuristic Lektron and one of the prime factors in giving it such great speed is a 27 percent reduced skin friction on the entire hull.

'Requiring no keel because of inherent stability, Lektron cuts wind and water resistance

The Axis would have little chance to spot and no chance at all to stop a fleet of these vessels racing through the darkness at 80 knots. They are designed to travel nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ submerged and they cannot be capsized.



Revolutionary in design, the framework of this 124 ft. model Lektron looks like the skeleton of some prehistoric monster.



to a degree never before reached on a sea going cargo vessel and reduces overall sea movement to an absolute minimum. Her design and stabilized metacenter prevent any rolling and her length and low displacement prevent toss and dip.'

Lektron is adaptable as a freighter, tanker or troop transport, and Hayes is making plans for a fleet of them—10,000 ton concrete torpedo-shaped semi-sub designed for speeding troops and cargo safely across the ocean.

SPEED ALMOST INCREDIBLE

The Axis would have little chance to spot and no chance at all to stop a fleet of these vessels racing through the darkness at 80 knots.

'Have you ever tried,' says Captain Burton, 'to bend, bounce or stretch a piece of hard cement? Well, before you laugh at the question, just try to imagine a block of cement with such qualities that you can easily cut it in two with a common saw. Picture a slab of it that is nearly as light as wood and so pliable and flexible that you can bend it into a complete circle as if it were rubber.

'Seems inconceivable, doesn't it? But that's exactly what I saw inventor Hayes do with his rubbery concrete. He has, in fact, even used it in a set of truck tires, with fine results.'

Lektron, before it was ever launched, was given an official examination by the Maritime Commission. Undergoing the severest test that can be given a ship, it was blocked up on the extreme tip of each end with no support of any kind in the middle. The hull center did not sag a fraction of an inch. Finally, 11,500 additional pounds (over one-half its own weight) was placed in the center

of the vessel and it sagged but one-sixteenth of an inch and showed absolutely no checks or cracks.

According to Captain Burton, Hayes stands ready to prove to the Government that he can build concrete ships similar to but stronger than the C-2 Libertys, taking but 12 days per ship and at 30 percent of the cost. He'll use mostly unskilled labor and only 1/10 the precious metal required in a Liberty ship. Much stronger than the Libertys, by eliminating built-in stresses they would travel twice as fast, carry twice as much cargo and, built in 3 sections, would stay afloat even if 2 sections were destroyed. Having no seams or rivet holes, they would be practically leak proof. (A concrete ship still in service on the Pacific Coast has not once in 22 years of coastal sailing found it necessary to use a bilge pump.) And where a steel ship would buckle and sink if afire the new concrete ship is absolutely fireproof.

Speaking of his plans for the future, and telling his opinion of the 20th century future-liner, Hayes said:

'By using discoveries that we have made in the development of our light-weight, high-speed cargo craft in connection with a ship design of new approach, and a discovery that greatly reduces friction between the hull and the water, we are in a position to build a concrete transport that could, using the same horsepower, carry as many passengers as the Queen Mary across the Atlantic at 80 knots per hour. The crossing from New York to Liverpool could be made in 42 hours.

'This liner could be built with one-third the money, one-tenth the scarce material and labor that went into the Queen Mary. Because of its greater speed, it could make twice the speed and carry twice the number of passengers per

(Continued from Page 2)

'More than 30,000,000 pounds of black pepper, or enough to take care of all requirements to the end of 1945, is in storage, but the owners refuse to sell at the ceiling price fixed by the O. P. A.' Andresen said.

In this case it is not even to insure a fair price to the growers that the interference is staged. No one knows what the importers paid, and under the system it does not matter; but unless some new ruling is made you will have to do without that necessary dash of pepper in your boiled eggs, and possibly even without the 'side of ham', until the owners of the nation's normal supply of pepper take a notion to let it go, or until they are able to bring sufficient pressure to bear to force the Government agency to raise the ceiling price.

So the effort to keep the price up in one instance, and down in another, serves no fundamentally useful purpose, but simply interposes an interference mechanism.

The irony of it is that the consumer pays the bill in any case. He is taxed to pay the government subsidy that maintains the scarcity so he will have to pay more for his spuds, thus double dealing against his own welfare.

By supporting private enterprise, the consumer sanctions the system that makes the importers' racket a perfectly legitimate one, and so he can hardly complain over the lack of pepper.

There is only one remedy—Total Conscription, which will make available to everyone a full supply of the abundance that is even now crowding our warehouses, cold-storage plants and granaries.

—L. L. B.

TECHNOCRACY'S PAMPHLETS

Total Conscription, Some Questions Answered.....	10c
Technocracy in Plain Terms.....	5c
Introduction to Technocracy	25c
Man Hours and Distribution	15c
America—Now and Forever	15c
The Energy Certificate	10c
The Sellout of the Ages.....	10c

NORTHWEST TECHNOCRAT

Wire mesh is tied to the circular framework and then covered with the cement. No inside bracing is required.

week. After the war, these ships could be used as fast super liners with luxurious promenades, dance floors, salons, and swimming pools. They could more than hold their own against the air liner because of their greater comfort, luxury and safety and their ability to go regardless of weather.

"We aim to concentrate at present," Mr. Haynes said, "on building ships that can evade the enemy and deliver the largest amount of cargo the greatest distance in the shortest space of time."

COVER PICTURE

Plexiglas rods 'Piping light.'

THE unusual optical properties of some of the new plastics permit designs differing from the traditional forms of direct and indirect lighting fixtures. Wiring and hardware can be concealed, since these plastics can conduct light around graceful curves, or unusual shapes, before its emission from sanded surfaces. One of these white translucent plastics evenly and effectively diffuses light, yet absorbs less than 5 percent of it. It has different opacities and varying light transmission and reflection factors, but all are at least 95 percent efficient.

Photo by courtesy Rohm & Haas Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE BIG SHOW

WHEN IT IS OVER ABROAD THE SHOWDOWN WILL COME AT HOME

FOUR months ago, in the sixth hour of the sixth day of the sixth month, the most tremendous military amphibian force in all the world's history was launched by the allies. At long last the iron doors of fortress Europe, which have been clanging for months to the continuous pounding of allied might, were battered ajar. Ever since, allied men and machines of war have been pouring through those doors by the hundreds of thousands. Their irresistible attacks, combined with the near civil war in the heart of Germany itself, are now driving the fascist enemy further and further toward his inevitable defeat.

When victory has been won in Europe, or even before then, a tremendous allied push will surge towards the strongholds of Oriental fascism. So that day will finally come on which these, too, will have fallen before the onslaught of American and British arms. On that fateful day, here and all over the world, for the peace that has come abroad, bells will ring and profound prayers of thanks will be given. But if we are to have peace and security here at home, for that day we *must be prepared*. And preparation requires knowledge and understanding of the irresistible trends in America's social order, and of the results of these trends when the war is over and production for destruction is finished.

UNDERSTANDING IS IMPORTANT

Preparation for that day also requires realization of the certain result of the minority opposition to these trends, now so evident amongst our politicians, financiers and other ardent advocates of the methods and objectives of big business and 'free' enterprise. On the extent of our understanding, on the intelligence used in the decisions we shall make, depends the future of those millions of Americans now fighting and dying for us abroad, the future of those whom they left behind, the future of every American. For present methods of adminis-

tration of the economy of this country and this continent are on their way out. What shall replace them depends finally on us, the vast majority of Americans.

Various names have been given to our present economic system. By some it is called capitalism, by others the profit system; and these two names do tell part of the story. But recently, as many Americans have become suspicious and many others have become certain that operation under our present system is not beneficial to America as a whole, its proponents have tried to fool us by giving it such vague labels as 'free' enterprise, 'The American Way' and even the 'Democratic Way.' But none of these labels is a tangible definition, for each person considering them has a different conception of 'freedom,' of 'The American Way' and even of 'Democracy.' So Technocracy has applied the label, *Price System*, and defines a price system of social administration as one in which goods and services (that means *all those many things* by which we live) are distributed by means of a medium of exchange, which is based on a commodity evaluation.

SCARCITY ESSENTIAL TO PRICE

One point to understand thoroughly in considering any social system in which goods and services are so distributed, is that it will function, or at least survive, as long as there is a *scarcity* of goods and services to distribute. As long as there are not enough mineral resources, enough powered equipment, enough *technology* in any country to supply every one in it with all they need for full generous living, the value of the exchange medium can be maintained; a price in that exchange medium can be set on every single thing each person needs or wants; business, trade and exchange can continue as the mechanism of distribution.

But as scarcity conditions recede, as capacity to produce and actual production rates advance, it be-

comes more and more difficult to support the value of the exchange medium, more and more difficult to support Price, and so to continue operation of the Price System. The air we breathe surrounds all the earth for miles above the highest mountain peaks. If there were a limited amount of it, it would be a commodity with a price, to be bought and sold. But fortunately it exists in too great abundance to be bought and sold. While we live, every person can have all he or she needs, for abundance destroys price. So, for instance, last July in the San Joaquin Valley, three-quarters of a million dollars' worth of potatoes were fed to the hogs. The price of potatoes to the human beings who need them was thus maintained.

NO MORE NATURAL SCARCITY

Realize that, from this country and this continent, *natural scarcity*, a condition under which we could not produce enough to satisfy all the material needs of our population, long since disappeared. So rapidly did our application of technology to production proceed during the first 20 years of this century that since the end of World War I, no man, woman or child in all of America need have lacked any of the necessities or luxuries of life. But millions of Americans did suffer, millions are still suffering, from the lack of all those things which America can so plentifully produce.

You have read of Sgt. Charles Edward Kelly. He was one of our first American boys to win the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest military honor we can bestow. Last June he was on furlough at his home in Pittsburgh. A few weeks before his arrival, *The New York Times* ran a picture of that home. That home is in the slums of the city; its doorstep abuts on an alley no more than ten feet wide into which the sun shines for only a few hours a day; and forty percent of American families are housed just as Sgt. Kelly is.

Then consider the four million 4-F's, a number equivalent to 40 percent of the personnel of our Armed Forces. During what should have been the prime period of their lives these 4 million were rejected by the Army and Navy as unfit for service because of marked physical and mental defects. These defects were unquestionably induced by deficient nutrition, insufficient medical care, inadequate housing and other results of enforced scarcity conditions.

Scarcity is necessary for the operation of the

Price System. Unrestrained abundance would destroy it. So during the last 25 years, in utter disregard of the welfare of the great majority of Americans, the Price System has been maintained by the only method available to those who now control it. That is by the imposition of an *artificial scarcity*. The crop control, the outright destruction of crops and herds, the closing of factories, in the years preceding our preparation for war, are very well remembered by all of us.

Then came the need of aid to Britain and Russia, finally the necessity for America actively to join the war against fascism with all the men and materiel we could muster. So the nearly broken Price System can now probably stagger on, at least for the duration; for our productive capacity, although greatly accelerated by the exigencies of war, is being principally expended, not for goods for sale on the home front but for the materials of war *which by war are destroyed*. So the threat to the Price System made by the abundance at home, is temporarily relieved by our part in the war abroad.

LIVING ON BORROWED TIME

The advocates and defenders of the status quo realize fully that their 'precious' system is living now only on borrowed time; that borrowing more time after the guns stop booming will be a very different and dangerous proceeding. But those dear, delightful old die-hards of yesterday are very gamely preparing to meet the issues of tomorrow. Yes indeed! They and the political and business interests for which they speak, know exactly what must be done. For instance, we give you the words of Honorable A. D. Cannon of Missouri in his speech before the House on April 24th as recorded in the Congressional Record.

Today both production and consumption are at the peak. Tomorrow with the close of the war, *consumption will decline and production must decline with it*. When war consumption is over, *war production is over*. At the close of the war the Government will have to throw 2 billion dollars' worth of food on the market in competition with the huge supplies held by nation-wide chain stores. There will be no market abroad because every European and Asiatic country will be destitute . . . *will have nothing with which to buy* . . . we have most of the gold and silver. There's only one recourse: the

Government must maintain the same legislative floor under farm wages and prices it maintains under industrial wages and prices. *To control prices we must control production. We must plan a postwar crop-control program.*

But the Honorable Mr. Cannon sees only one phase of the crisis his beloved system of free enterprise will soon face, and recites only one of the measures that its advocates and beneficiaries will undoubtedly fight to enforce in their effort to keep it alive: for not only will we have the 2 billion dollars' worth of food to dispose of, but we will have the capacity to produce many more billion dollars' worth of food, of clothing and all other necessities of life than we have ever had before, and much more than can be distributed at home *under the rules of the Price System.*

'HOBSON'S CHOICE'

What will our political and financial controls do with the 25 billion dollars' worth of new equipment which has so greatly increased our capacity to produce? Will they elect to operate it? If they do, its operation will release such a tremendous flood of goods that markets, price and the Price System itself will crash to quick ruin. If they close down this great addition to our industrial plant, 30 to 40 millions of unemployed with no purchasing power, and the widespread poverty and privation which result from unemployment in the Price System, will face them. Yet, it is towards such a shutdown and towards all other measures aimed to restrict, instead of release, the abundance with which America can provide all of us, that nearly all political, business and financial interests are moving.

In that direction, men and women of America, *lies fascism.* The move towards it can be only too plainly seen in the growing power of the War Man-

power Board. In July it imposed what is in effect conscription of manpower—that is of manpower only, omitting from conscription management, materiel, machines and money. The pressure is seen in the closer welding together of business and political interests here, and in the growth of cartels and monopolies, domestic and international. When the military might of Germany and Japan is finally crushed it is very probable that the defenders of the status quo in America, in a last desperate effort to prolong it, will press still harder for the installation of tight fascist controls over our American economy; for therein lies their only hope.

Technocracy points out that, to make such a move impossible, there is but one sure procedure. It is the indorsement of, and finally the installation, by the Government of these United States, of Total Conscription of the men, machines, materiel and money of this country. And after thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of Americans, shall have given their lives to help uproot and destroy the fascism of Europe and the Orient, shall we who stayed securely at home, and for whose security from that very menace those sons and brothers and husbands died,—shall we permit fascism to take root and flourish in our own American Soil?

A NATION OF BENEDICT ARNOLDS

Realize fully, if we shall do this we shall be betraying those who for us made the supreme sacrifice. We shall be selling out to the very ideology with which we are now at war. We shall go down in history as a whole nation of Benedict Arnolds, for we shall be betraying ALL of America!

When the Big Show is over abroad the show-down will come at home; so Technocracy asks again—WHICH WAY, AMERICA?

N. Jerome Bowen, 11834-3.

DISAPPOINTMENT AHEAD FOR BUYERS of FARMS

Thousands of war workers buying land in Western Washington with intentions of going "back to the farm" to make a living after the war, are due for bitter failure and disappointment, Arthur Peterson, expert on rural land use, said here during a visit from Pullman.

"Thousands of persons who are planning to have small farms to make a living after they are thrown out of jobs after the war are buying up acreage that is totally unsuited for farming," he said.

Peterson pointed out that the survey showed that it would not be economically feasible for buyers to try to "condition" such soil in competition with farmers on more fertile tracts.

The survey showed, Peterson said, that some land that is being bought has an income-producing capacity that is

not even comparable with the "dustbowl" areas of Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Nevada and Texas.

"Many Mid-Westerners are coming to the Pacific Coast and buying land thinking that rainfall is the only deciding factor in selection of a farm site," he said. "They are due for bitter disappointment."

Peterson said that in one section of Clark County, war workers have been buying up acreage in an area covered with rich black soil that is only "skin deep." This soil, he said, lies about 10 to 12 inches deep on a glacial gravel bed which "has never produced anything except grass—not even trees, and is totally worthless as farmland."—Seattle Times.

(See The Northwest Technocrat, May 1944, p. 17)

sition from the haphazard strife-torn system of free enterprise to an over-all designed operation of our social mechanism as an entity,—a unity of all our citizenry in one common effort for national achievement. No other proposed plan, either for the war or for post-war conditions, envisions the transference of America's security from the unstable, out-moded and untrustworthy control of free enterprisers after private profits in every undertaking to the solid basis of continental resources, equipment and personnel. Total Conscription proposes to American citizens the only plan for permanently and unitedly advancing continental security.

AN OVER-ALL DESIGN

Total Conscription assures compliance with those natural physical laws operative in our social order as demonstrated by economic trends and scientific research. These laws and trends are basic to Technocracy's investigation and findings. These natural physical laws directly affect America's security and the welfare of our people. Public policy should be determined and predicated upon those laws rather than controlled by political expediency and free enterprising profit taking. Technocracy proposes an over-all design for the operation of our continental physical mechanism with the economic trends, while free enterprise's profit-motivated methods tempt evasion, interference and quite frequently efforts directly against those laws and trends. Hence, public policy is determined by the dominant pressure group or groups on the basis of private profit taking or to their advantage. The American dust bowl, our wastefulness of natural resources and human life, the backwardness of agriculture and the uncontrolled recurrent flooding of our rivers all evidence the indifference of free enterprise's profit taking system of continental operation to natural physical laws and economic trends.

TOTAL CONSCRIPTION THE ANSWER

Total Conscription could not repair the injuries done our continental domain by profit takers operating as free enterprisers but this program would bring into maximum service the materiel, equipment and personnel in scientific conformity with physical laws and their economic trends.

During a decade, various expediciencies were tried out to maintain an artificial scarcity sufficient to stabilize markets at profitable levels. Business had previously depended upon the old method of tariff walls to protect home markets from foreign compe-

tion. Tariff walls safeguarded home trade but retaliatory measures closed foreign markets to our exports. Following the complete failure of tariff walls, we have witnessed the governmental control of production, the slaughtering of cattle, sheep and hogs, the withdrawal of tillable land from cultivation, laws fixing parity price levels, cash payments to farmers under the AAA, while subsidies have been granted as a last resort to encourage export trade.

Free enterprisers can operate at a profit only in the presence of sufficient scarcity to maintain a competitive demand. The millions of dollars' worth of goods sent to foreign lands under lend-lease, rehabilitation and Red Cross administration attest the abundance now being produced. Free enterprise, by its own plans and under its control, has proved the inadequacy of all past expediciencies to maintain a profitable price in the distribution of an abundance. Total Conscription, with its scientific and technical over-all design of operations, would place all production, services and distribution on a balanced load basis. Instead of expediciencies to limit and combat the effects of an abundance, the volume of probable consumption would be scientifically ascertained. Then production would be keyed to that volume and the abundance would be consumed with every citizen enjoying unhampered access to the same high standard of living.

Total Conscription is the only advance possible from the status quo of artificial scarcity into a post-war era of abundance which can bestow upon this continent a permanent security and upon its people the benefits of an abundance for their comfort, happiness and well-being.

—Lewis E. Frazeur.

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being offered by free enterprise which will assure security and public well-being for the postwar period.

The fear is occasioned by the probability of millions of our citizenry being unemployed,—by the possibility of a severe economic recession. Both technology and scientific research establish the possibility of economic advancement. The Total Conscription of men, machines, materiel and money of the nation with national service from all and profits to none would unify our people to meet the problems of the postwar period. Total Conscription would provide America with one over-all design of operating our economy and bring within the scope of that design all the materiel, equipment and scientific and technical personnel to meet the postwar problems for six months following the termination of the war. All other postwar planning presupposes a reversion to prewar status quo. Total Conscription stands out before the American people as an open avenue of economic advancement into the future,—an advance into a future of continental security and abundance for every citizen.

WAR PROSPERITY 'AROUND THE CORNER'

The Report just quoted is conspicuous for the lack of any allusion to either financial or political action as a stimulus capable of providing steady employment for labor. War alone was suggested as adequate to operate 'the present economic system . . . in such a way as to approximate full employment.' Yet we all recall the frenzied appeals for 'confidence' and the repeated assurances that prosperity was 'just around the corner.'

Well, prosperity did begin to creep 'around the corner' when cannons began to boom in Asia and Europe. The Asiatic war was not of sufficient magnitude to force prosperity within sight but, with the Italian conquest of Ethiopia and the war in Spain, it made contributions. Then came Hitler and Hirohito, and prosperity leaped upon us. Here are some testimonials to the beneficent presence of current prosperity. These clippings were taken from the Seattle Times during a recent thirty-day period:

'Clearings climb to 14-year high,—Seattle's total was \$123,473,000, an increase of 32.3 percent over the same week a year ago.' Olympia, 'Excise taxes for the first two months of this year showed a gain of \$1,988,526 over a similar period last year.'

Washington, D. C., "The diamond industry in 1943

reached an all-time peak of prosperity, says the Bureau of Mines.' San Francisco, 'The month of May, 1944, was the highest corresponding month in history for civilian purchases in Pacific Coast department stores, the Federal Reserve Bank reports reveal. Buying ran 13 percent higher than a year ago.' 400 a Day Travel Northwest Airlines, 'Establishing a record for a month's operations, the airline carried 12,367 revenue passengers in May, as compared with 10,685 in April. The total in May, 1943, was 7,207.' Olympia, 'Washington State's gross cash balance reached an all-time peak of \$81,639,140 for the week ending June 22.' Episcopal Pension Fund reported 'assets of \$37,629,423 as of past year.'

Seattle, 'King County's June real-estate transactions represented a total consideration of \$10,869,516 and broke all records . . . "It is the opinion of well informed real-estate brokers in the investment property field that we are approaching a market condition which may reach boom proportions," (J. Harold) Sparkman said. "The June figure exceeded by \$82,120 the month of May, itself a record breaker."'

Seattle, 'In hands of shareholders of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company yesterday was the quarterly financial statement of its president, N. R. Rowley, showing quarterly dividends amounting to \$4,922,000.' Washington, D. C., 'The Postoffice Department today turned over a \$30,003,229 surplus to the Treasury, marking the first time in 25 years it has turned back money to the general fund.'

Howard Scott predicted such an orgy of profit taking if global war developed, and now we are in the midst of the recurrent War Dance of free enterprisers. This war, the sacrifice of America's youth, is staging the greatest orgy of profit taking of all history. Total Conscription would end this orgy of profit taking. It would transform the goal of free enterprisers from their self-interest in profit taking into the one objective dominating the minds of our American boys as they make their supreme sacrifice,—the security of our native America. Total Conscription would prevent the interference of private profit taking with the war effort and would solidify the home front with the battle front in one tremendous determined endeavor of a unified people. The Victory Program of Total Conscription is the only proposed advance of our social order from a profit-orgy method of operation to an objective exclusively concerned with continental security and well-being. It is the only program offered for tran-

sition from the haphazard strife-torn system of free enterprise to an over-all designed operation of our social mechanism as an entity,—a unity of all our citizenry in one common effort for national achievement. No other proposed plan, either for the war or for post-war conditions, envisions the transference of America's security from the unstable, out-moded and untrustworthy control of free enterprisers after private profits in every undertaking to the solid basis of continental resources, equipment and personnel. Total Conscription proposes to American citizens the only plan for permanently and unitedly advancing continental security.

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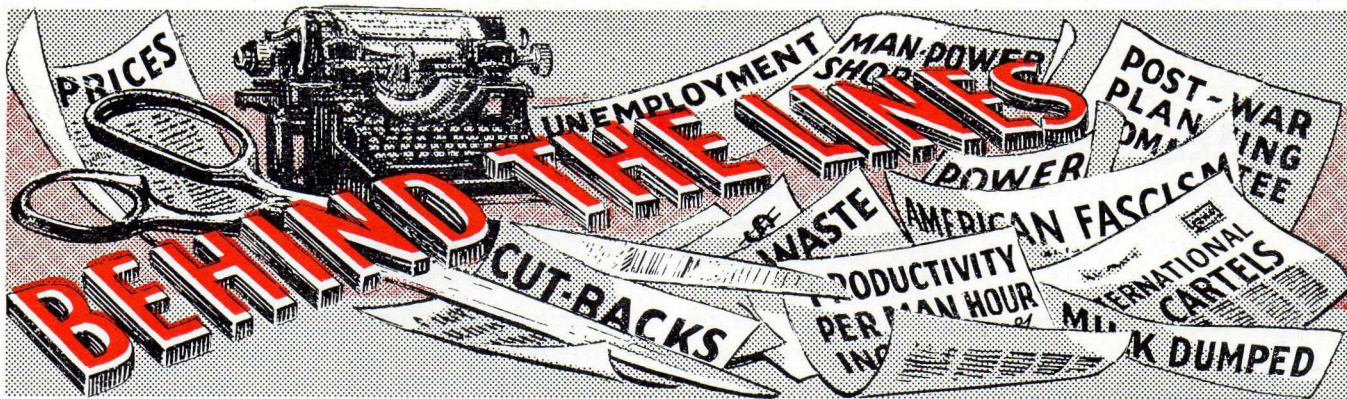
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SCIENTIFIC HIGH COMMAND

In Washington last week, 13 men sat down to plan a history-making project. The men: four admirals, four scientists, three generals, a colonel and, as chairman, Charles E. Wilson, vice chairman of WPB. The project: a permanent scientific high command to prepare the U. S. to defend itself in any future war. It will undertake the first permanent mobilization of scientists in U. S. history.

Though not yet charted in detail, the new office of military science appeared likely to consist of a board of top U. S. scientists. The board would order and supervise Government-financed research projects, which might either be farmed out to university laboratories under contract or carried out in Government laboratories under the board's direct control. Its object would be to keep at least a nucleus of civilian scientists at work on preparedness after X-day.

Said enthusiastic Chairman Wilson, "In a nutshell, the purpose of this organization is to keep America not abreast, but ahead of the rest of the world.—Time, July 3, 1944.

FROM RUBBER TO WHISKEY

Inside reason for the "whiskey holiday" is that there is too much raw synthetic rubber on hand waiting to be processed. Due to the shortage of manpower in the rubber industry, manufacturers are unable to use all the synthetic available to them; haven't the labor force to fabricate tires and other rubber goods—especially for civilian use.

Synthetic deteriorates in quality if not processed within a few months, and if larger and larger quantities continue to pile up, a good deal of the synthetic rubber will be useless. Most of the petroleum process plants for synthetic are still not in full production, despite the fact that it is now two and a half year since Pearl Harbor. So the surplus is accounted for mainly by alcohol processes.

—Washington Merry-go-Round.

RETURN TO 1940 OUTPUT MEANS JOBLESS, SAYS BOWLES

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 25.—(AP)—A postwar production level the same as existed in 1940 would mean 19,500,000 unemployed in the United States because of war-developed technological improvements, says Chester Bowles, chief of the Office of Price Administration.

"I do not believe this country is willing to go back to its prewar economy," he told 1,200 O. P. A. workers yesterday. —Seattle Times.

CORRECTION

The cover picture on our September issue was credited to 'Fairbanks' Engine and Airplane Corporation. It should have been 'Fairchild.'

U. S. TRACTORS TO MEXICO

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 12.—The Secretary of Agriculture today announced a shipment of United States tractors and other farm equipment had been sold at cost to Mexican farmers. The machinery was distributed in districts where a shortage of farm labor had resulted because of the recruiting of workers for United States farms.

—Seattle Times.

NEW PROP GRINDER CUTS COST

EAST HARTFORD, Conn.—Production time for grinding propeller blades from rough forgings to gleaming, perfectly balanced air foils has been cut in half by use of a continuous strip grinding machine designed by the Hamilton Standard Propellers division here.

Grinding a mile a minute, it eliminates the slow hand grinding, which required great skill and heavy labor, and some of the heavy external machining. It is accurate to one-ten-thousandth of an inch and leaves only polishing and balancing to be done by hand.

This is the first application of speed machine grinding to propeller blades, which present peculiar problems because of the varying width, thickness and angle throughout their length.—Seattle Star.

TIRE LACK MAY CUT LOG OUTPUT

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 2.—(AP)—Douglas fir log production will drop 25 percent within 30 days and possibly 50 percent in 60 days unless the Office of Price Administration modifies its 67 percent slash in heavy truck tire allocations.

This is the prediction of Frederick H. Brundage, the W. P. B.'s western log and lumber administrator.

Nearly 100 per cent of Western Oregon's fir logs are moved by truck, he said in warning that the tire situation has become more critical than the manpower shortage.

—Seattle Times.

54,000,000 JOBS INDICATED AS POSTWAR NEED

Leading American economists are thinking of the necessity of at least 54,000,000 postwar jobs, it was indicated by A. F. Hinrichs, acting commissioner of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, in Seattle on a national fact-finding tour.

"When the war is over, between 58,000,000 and 59,000,000 people will be expecting regular and steady work," Hinrichs declared.

"Their needs will be reasonably satisfied if about 54,000,000 jobs are available. At any one time, about 2,000,000 will be seeking work or be in the process of changing jobs, and perhaps another 2,000,000—more or less—might be in the armed forces."—Seattle Times.

Small Business and Labor are in the Same Boat

AS A RESULT of President Roosevelt's message to Congress, April 29, 1938 (during the 'recession') a committee composed of three senators and three congressmen together with government experts, was directed to examine the American economy. 40 monographs on various branches of our economy were presented for study by the committee.

Hearings were conducted for two years in a most thorough and far reaching manner. The results fully substantiated the declarations made years before by the Technical Alliance and Technocracy Inc.

Charged with finding some manner in which our economy could be conducted so as 'to preserve private enterprise for profit by keeping it free enough to be able to utilize all our resources of capital and labor at a profit,' the committee's activity was called by the press 'a magnificent failure.'

True, the committee failed to find any methodology whereby the Price System could be made to work. It did not fail in finding indisputable facts substantiating the validity of the long term trends, indicating an imminent breakdown of the present social order, as hitherto disclosed by Technocracy.

A SHOT IN THE ARM

Maury Maverick is touring the country in behalf of small business. He has been giving the anxious gentry a shot in the arm to inoculate against pessimism. While the narcotic may induce pleasant dreams, it doesn't guard against the morning-after headache.

The testimony of Corrington Gill, assistant commissioner, Works Project Administration, amply substantiated by other testimony and statistical exhibits and nowhere refuted, indicated Mr. Maverick is a dreamer of dreams.

And Candidate Dewey might well read the following excerpt from the T. N. E. C. Report before he discloses his plans for full employment:

Many of the improvements and refinements in machines are associated particularly with

equipment of large capacity. Aside from improved design, size is frequently an advantage in and of itself. Large-capacity equipment frequently requires no greater operating labor per operating unit than smaller equipment. Furthermore, the cost of manufacturing a particular type of equipment does not usually increase proportionately as the capacity of the machine increases. Accordingly, the capital investment per unit of capacity usually decreases with an increase in the size of the equipment. In the petroleum refining industry, for example, for one type of equipment, operating costs per unit of capacity for the large units are only about one-third as great as for the small units. Similarly, investment per unit of capacity is only about one-third as great for the large as for the small units. These economies of large-capacity equipment are available principally to the large enterprises. This is due both to the technical possibilities of large scale production and to the availability of funds for investment.

SPECTACULAR ECONOMIES

Other types of technological change which accrue principally to large enterprises are the mechanization of handling and the introduction of continuous processes. The most important economies associated with these changes follow the reorganization of the plant layout to assure the continuous flow of materials and the necessary synchronization of one operation with another; that is, by improvements in the organization of production—an important phase of recent technical advances. I should like to illustrate this by reference to the conveyor assembly-line system of production which has effected spectacular economies in such mass-production industries as automobile and radio manufacture, which involve the assembling of numerous parts. The elimination of handling-labor by the conveyor is only a small part of the total economies effected. Labor productivity is increased, principally through the reduction of stoppages and the increased intensity of labor, whose speed is to a very large extent set by the speed at which the belt operates.

In large scale industries working with homogeneous materials, the introduction of the continuous process principle has effected equally great economies, but has been accom-

plished somewhat differently. Previously distinct operations have been integrated, either directly or through the use of mechanical conveying equipment. The necessary synchronization is accomplished largely with the aid of instruments and much operating, as well as handling and storage, labor is eliminated. In many of these industries, notably electric power, petroleum refining, steel, glass, paper and pulp and chemicals, after two decades of such developments, entire departments and plants are now operated from central instrument panels at which a few operators are stationed.

Such recording and controlling instruments, employed in large, highly mechanized plants, are an example of the type of equipment, auxiliary to the principal production units, which has found extensive application in recent years. Such auxiliary devices have involved only small capital outlays in relation to the economies which they made possible.

Numerous instances could be cited to show the reduction in operating costs effected through the precise regulation of processes with the aid of such instruments. According to one of the project's studies, the expenditure for controlling and measuring instruments per \$1,000 of machinery rose from less than \$4 in 1919 to more than \$14 in 1939. The increase in the use of industrial instruments which automatically control the operation of machinery or processes has been especially notable.

As a percentage of total sales, controlling instruments have risen from 8 in 1923 to more than 35 at the present time. (1940) . . .

. . . The establishment of the basic machine techniques, which was accomplished in the bulk

of manufacturing industries before 1920, has multiplied rather than restricted the opportunities for technological change. *There is, therefore, no reason to expect any cessation in the rate of increase in labor productivity, since it can be expected that as mechanization continues fresh opportunities for improvement will unfold themselves. . . . (Italics supplied.)*

In the bulk of American industry, the trend toward the elimination of the small enterprises and the concentration of production in large corporations is an observed fact.

(Part 30, Pages 17226-7-8—Temporary National Economic Committee Reports.)

The trend noted by Mr. Gill, toward increase in the magnitude of operations, has been demonstrated during the war effort. A few large corporations produce the major part of the machines and provisions for war. Also the production per unit per man-hour has increased enormously.

These trends are unidirectional and irreversible. All the factual findings of the T. N. E. C. substantiate that statement, yet the politicians who conducted this examination of our economy have the following to say in their final report (P.9):

So great a proportion of all national savings and all national wealth has fallen under the control of a few organized enterprises that the opportunity of those individuals who will constitute the next generation will be completely foreclosed unless, by common consent of leadership and business and government, we undertake to reverse the trends responsible for the present crises. King Canute had some such idea.

—C. T. H.

TECHNOLOGY'S TRANSITION DECREE - (Continued from Page 5)

chical genius is never satisfied. A farmer of East Moline, Illinois, has patented a corn planting machine by which the farmer can now plow, harrow, and plant all in one operation. (7) Two Illinois professors have developed a clover harvesting machine that does the work of 2,400 men. It moves down the field at 4 miles an hour, harvesting a 6-foot swath; but they don't operate in a victory garden or in any human toil economy.

Because of all this, a frightful fear hangs over the heads of private corporate enterprise and politics. Beyond the Price System aspects of the war boom—the jobs, the overtime, the big profits—looms the horrible specter of the great social hangover.

The attempt to procure adequate Continental defense or coordination under the merchandising prac-

tices of this Price System has resulted in the greatest financial orgy ever known—we have had a last wild fling; now the debacle ensues. Can we take it and keep our heads?

Today the haunting fear of business and politics is peace and abundance. Futile efforts at piecemeal planning were made, efforts to stave off the debacle, efforts to keep the national income at 100 billion dollars or thereabouts, a figure at which it was hoped things could be stabilized to a condition of long hoped for 'normalcy.' These efforts rejoiced under the name of 'postwar planning,' a planning which is still based on the hope of Price System operation in spite of everything, while the nation is bogged down in the swamp of private enterprise, private profit, personal opinion, and putrid politics; but the handwriting is on the wall. The heat is on,

the power is loosed—the power of advancing technology.

Here are some of the proposed schemes. The American Road Builders' Association proposes to build a coast-to-coast super-highway—at a cost of \$100 billion. Technocracy is in favor of a coast-to-coast super-highway, but reminds these 'planners' that we need not one highway but a whole Continental system of them. Technocracy also recalls our statements that such gigantic works cannot be constructed under the financial limitations of the Price System.

In San Francisco, Robert W. Mead, of the Western Division of the National Resources Planning Board, says that if 5 billion dollars a year were spent in various projects all America could be kept at work. Only 5 billion dollars? Quite a wide tolerance in estimates on this spending. Obviously there is something wrong with such calculations.

Another example of this so-called economic planning is found in the words of Carl J. Ratzlaff, Department of Economics, Lafayette College, who says: 'The basic economic forces, namely the desire to work and the incentive to save—which constitute the very foundation of our economic system—have been diminished in recent years to an alarming degree.' Technocrats noted this tendency at least ten years before it happened.

In the good old tradition of private business, John W. Barringer, recently on the railroad division of the RFC, says: 'Railways are faced with the competition of "super-liners," both aerial and marine, "super-highways" and "super-power." Moreover, the size and capacity of some of the pipe lines now being proposed may put these new developments in that classification also. Railroads must become "super-railroads" too.' He goes on to say that to achieve the super-railroads, (with which Technocracy is fully in favor) will call for an outlay of at least 800 million dollars to 1 billion dollars a year for at least ten years. But what about super-inland waterways? This little item was conveniently omitted from the railroad wail. Are the railroads opposed to efficient transportation?

Somehow or other the idea of huge Continental functions is taking root. Even a Senator has them. Says Senator Mead of New York: ' . . . consideration should be given to construction of new highways through Central America, from the United States to Alaska, and through regions such as the

Adirondack Mountains.' Looks like someone has been reading our mail. The suggestion that caps them all comes from Representative Joseph W. Martin, Republican National Chairman, who, after predicting the forthcoming collapse, says: 'Only the Republican Party can save the United States . . . '

Returning to a serious consideration of the situation, we find that the trend toward Continental operations is becoming plain. The march of the new technology is on. As the magnitude of public spending increases it will become imperative to adopt a method of social control compatible with the scale of the operations. Technocrats alone can view the future with determination to help achieve this new America and to defend it against aggression from abroad and treachery from within. Technocrats alone know for what they are fighting—the New America of abundance and security—whereas, picayune private groups in business and politics are prone to resist all advancement.

Four years ago Technocracy cited statistics showing that federal employment and federal spending were going into the blue; in 2 years the number of people in federal service climbed from 4,981,045 to 6,536,873. But it did not stop there. By April of 1942 the total had gone to approximately 7,500,000, and for the last two years it has been increasing even more rapidly. The Federal Government has become the greatest single employer in America, and private corporate enterprise is being forced to accept a steadily declining role. These figures tell the story of a revolution that is sweeping away the economic structure we have known, quietly, relentlessly, in spite of all opposition.

Technocracy is not taking the side of government control as opposed to private business or vice versa; it is merely pointing out the trend of events. As the magnitude of the operation increases, more centralized control is necessary. Eventually that control must become functional and must embrace the entire organic and geographic structure. The American people have made our Government responsible for the operation of the country in this period of transition and crisis. Greater changes are in the making than have yet been seen.

Corporate enterprise, sensing its approaching debacle, is now belatedly proclaiming its social responsibility! The agencies of corporate enterprise have become the leading advocates of 'postwar planning.' They plan to provide America (and the world) with streamlined bathtubs, plastic automo-

biles, and gadgets galore—all through their own benign operations, plainly hoping through these widely advertised plans to restore the confidence of the sucker consumer. But, unless the trend of 20 years and the juggernaut of technological warfare can be slowed to a halt—and quickly—no planning will be carried out by private enterprise, for private enterprise will have ceased to exist.

Working directly for Uncle Sam are 7,500,000 people. Another 2,500,000 are on the payrolls of state, county, and municipal governments, making a total of 10,000,000 plus their dependents. This segment of the population is divorced from participation in the machinations of the business economy. Out of a grand total of 54,000,000 people in the present labor pool of the country, this 19 percent is already in a form of national service! This is not national service as Technocracy conceives it to be (total conscription of all with profits to none); it is rather a form of national corporate enterprise in which government is assuming more of the responsibilities that formerly belonged to private enterprise. Since the war started this number has increased 3,500,000, and it is still increasing. One year increase in federal services amounted to 787,906.

In addition to these at least 17,500,000 are employed solely in war industries. This group is 32 percent of the total labor pool, ostensibly supported through private corporate enterprise but actually financed, controlled and regulated directly by the Federal Government! And down through all the roots of society the purchasing power of these millions stimulates every hardware store and fruit or news stand in the country, thereby indirectly providing sustenance to millions more.

Finally, we come to public relief, an institution that still exists in America. The *Statistical Abstract of the United States* lists the following as receiving some form of public assistance: the Old-Age Assistance, Aid to Dependent Children, Aid to the Blind, Cases of Relief, total 4,116,486; and relief is expanding daily.

In 1937, the lowest point since '32, (and conditions were then considered 'very bad') the grand total on the federal payroll was a mere 1,170,977. There was no war industry. There were few on relief. Today over 70 percent of the labor pool are in these groups. Is there anyone so naive as to suppose that private corporate enterprise can stage a comeback—that Government can demobilize this

TECHNOCRACY

America's Only Social Dynamic

WHEN

Technocracy originated in the winter of 1918-1919 when Howard Scott formed a group of scientists, engineers and economists that became known in 1920 as the Technical Alliance—a research organization. In 1930 the group was first known as Technocracy. In 1933 it was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York as a non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian membership organization. In 1934 Howard Scott, Director-in-Chief, made his first Continental lecture tour which laid the foundations of the present nation-wide membership organization. Since 1934 Technocracy has grown steadily without any spectacular spurts, revivals, collapses or rebirths. This is in spite of the fact that the press has generally 'held the lid, on Technocracy, until early in 1943 when it made the tremendous 'discovery' that Technocracy had been reborn suddenly, full-fledged with all its members, headquarters, etc., in full swing!

WHAT

Technocracy is the only American social movement with an American program which has become widespread in America. It has no affiliation with any other organization, group or association either in America or elsewhere.

The basic unit of Technocracy is the chartered Section consisting of a minimum of 25 members and running up to several hundred.

It is not a commercial organization or a political party; it has no financial subsidy or endowment and has no debts. Technocracy is supported entirely by the dues and donations of its own members. These widespread membership activities of Technocracy are performed voluntarily; no royalties, commissions or bonuses are paid, and only a small full-time staff receives subsistence allowances. The annual dues are \$6.00 which are paid by the member to his local Section.

Members wear the chromium and vermilion insignia of Technocracy—the Monad, an ancient generic symbol signifying balance.

WHERE

There are units and members of Technocracy in almost every State, and in addition there are members in Alaska, Canada, Hawaii, Panama, Puerto Rico and in numerous other places with the Armed Forces.

Members of Technocracy are glad to travel many miles to discuss Technocracy's Victory Program with any interested people and Continental Headquarters will be pleased to inform anyone of the location of the nearest Technocracy unit.

WHO

Technocracy was built in America by Americans. It is composed of American citizens in all walks of life. Technocracy's membership is a composite of all the occupations, economic levels, races and religions, which make up this country. Membership is open only to North American citizens. Aliens, Asiatics and politicians are not eligible. (By politicians is meant those holding elective political office or active office in any political party).

Doctor, lawyer, storekeeper, farmer, mechanic, teacher, preacher or housewife—as long as you are a patriotic American—you are welcome in Technocracy.

force of civilian and military workers, and leave our whole economy to the tender mercies of the heterogeneous hodge podge of contemporary schemers?

No. The inescapable conclusion is that the entire national economy of the United States is dependent on government spending—(at the moment it is—mostly on the vitally necessary implements of war) and that today private corporate enterprise exists merely as a form. The rapid increase of this process in the coming months of demobilization will produce stresses and strains in the economy which will require greater changes than we have seen in our history—probably within the year. America is headed for a mass movement demanding the total conscription of men, machines, materiel and money with national service from all and profits to none OR chaos!

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1944, it is estimated that the Federal Government has expended a total of over \$115 billion. The income will be approximately \$26 billion, leaving a deficit of approximately \$89 billion. This \$89 billion represents the new debt creation by the Federal Government during this year alone. This new debt creation is more than the entire public debt of two years ago.

Technocracy has stated that to maintain the operations of the Price System the Federal Government would have to assume the prerogative of debt creation. It is now clear to all that this process is reaching some kind of a peak. Technocracy now asks again: 'Can private corporate enterprise stage a comeback? Can this financial process be reversed?' We leave the answer to the immediate future. It would seem that the march of events will compel America to adopt Total Conscription unless this process can be reversed or halted, but transition to peace will accelerate the trend, not retard it.

The hopes and fears of the Price System are summarized plaintively in the October issue of the bulletin of the National City Bank of New York, which publishes excerpts from an address by Dr. Charles M. A. Stine, vice-president of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., and comments by the bank.

Dr. Stine said in part:

More than a century was consumed in bringing the crude rubber production of the world up to a million tons yearly. The United States alone is now undertaking to accomplish almost as mighty a feat in less than two years, by the manufacture of chemical rubbers from petrole-

um, alcohol, coal and limestone. By the end of 1943, our production of aluminum will be at a rate almost seven times greater than was attained in 1939 after fifty years of intensive development. The aluminum producing capacity being created will furnish in one year metal enough to build thrice the number of passenger cars now operating on all American railroads. To produce this aluminum will require more electricity annually than was consumed in 1940 in 27 of our 48 states.

Until a few years ago magnesium was a structural curiosity. Today almost a half-ton of it on the average, (recovered mostly from sea water) is going into every American fighting plane that is built. After the war, the nation's capacity for producing this lightest of all structural metals will be more than double its aluminum output of 1939. Our aviation industry is establishing facilities for the manufacture in one year of almost double the number of planes it produced throughout the 37 years of its entire history beginning with the Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk, and culminating in the war program The nation will emerge from this war with capacities for making plastics, synthetic fibres, nitrates, hydrocarbons, high octane gasolines, and literally scores of chemical and other raw materials, on a scale that only two years ago was beyond our comprehension.

By all means watch petroleum . . . Fuels can now be made that go beyond the octane scale Looking upon the situation that is indicated for after the war, the petroleum chemist now sees all existing motors as out of date.

Plastics were but a sensational promise before Pearl Harbor. The newest and most versatile of plastics will be available after this war on a scale beyond all previous conception. The high pressure synthesis of ammonia, one of the major chemical exploits of the century, will have taken on an industrial status that, in terms of new producing capacity, may be comparable to the discovery of a sixth continent. The amount of fertilizer chemicals that this new capacity will be able to supply to farmers will be so large that the basic trends of agriculture might be changed. All these comprise but one group of a hundred or more products stemming from this high pressure synthesis, which utilizes air, water, and coal as its building blocks.

We will have glass that is unbreakable and glass that will float, wool that won't burn, and laminations of plastics and wood that will compete with the structural metals. Hosiery derived from air, water and coal, a wonder of pre-war days, is but the forerunner of many innovations from the same source, ranging from shoes that contain no leather and window

screens that contain no wire, to machinery that contains no metal.

Fuels and metals and plastics are now ready to complete the revolution in transportation begun early in the century. The automobile manufacturers' slate has been wiped clean for a fresh start, which should result in new cars that will be of incredible efficiency judged by present standards. Since motor car production stopped, the shiny new models that are gathering dust in dealers' storerooms have aged, technically, at least two decades. Technically we are now in the 1960's of motor cars, as measured by the old pace of development. But the Price System demands that we go back to 1942 and stay there as long as possible. 'Backward, turn backward, Oh Time, in Thy flight,' says the modern alchemist.

. . . . in housing . . . plywood, plastics, rustless steel, non-ferrous alloys, various types of combination board, fire-resistant woods, ceramics, and synthetic finishes of lasting durability will be employed in profusion. For example, stainless steel is indicated as a common roofing material of the future. It will last as long as the house and require no maintenance. Lighting will be automatic, governed by electric 'eyes' sensitive to outside variations in the daylight. Air-conditioning units will filter out the pollen of hay fever and asthma

Well, let us get realistic. After all, all of this is the product of the application of science and technology. *Neither the chemistry of the dollar bill, the structural strength of a balance sheet, the dehydration of debt, nor the horsepower of a ballot has entered into any one of those physical developments, yet the National City Bank, as a representative of business, has to wave the flag of the Price System and add its own postscript to the address. The National City Bank attempts to nail the works of science and technology to the cross of business by saying, 'Such are the achievements and promise of the system of individual enterprise. Who says that this system has failed, that the day of great discoveries has passed, and that progress is slowing down!'*

The technologist supplied the power, the dynamics. The financier and politician provided only the brakes and monkey-wrench interference. And the Democratic Party is taking credit for it. Well, there is no answer to this, no answer at least as far as they are concerned. Of this type of mentality, we can only say that, like the Bourbons of the French monarchy, 'they do not learn and they never forget, and they never will, so we must continue to advance in spite of them.'

A new scheme, hatched by the majority holders of debt claims, takes its place beside the two hundred some odd postwar planning bodies now in operation in the United States. Postwar planning has become synonymous with 'the future of free enterprise.' The very concept of postwar planning, as a project of private groups dealing with local areas, single industries, or relief schemes, is a bastard concept to begin with, and it has degenerated into an open scramble for postwar business. Technocracy took note of the fact that almost as soon as the war had started the postwar planning began. All of this 'planning,' Technocracy pointed out, came from business, and none of it from scientists, technicians, or engineers.

This Organization has been repeatedly asked if it has a postwar plan, and the answer has been 'NO.'

Technocracy itself is a plan; not a postwar plan, but a continuous Continental plan of operations embracing all functions on this Continent. By contrast to this the postwar plans of business and of the various branches of the Government are frankly advance sales campaigns to secure either the marketing of a given product, or the commercial stability of world trade and the development of new foreign markets, or any other device that will produce a continued state of scarcity, price and profit in America, and save the chiseler.

We are just giving you a warning of what the American public is likely to be fed in ever-larger doses as time goes on. But what of the realities? Will flossy advertisements and a hodge-podge of chiselers' plans hold back the tide of change in the days of peace? A recent survey by the Department of Commerce, United States Government, indicates that there will be a basic minimum of 19,500,000 unemployed by 1946. The survey begins its report in these words:

The desired goal for the domestic economy after the war might be described in several different ways. The businessman might well insist, for example, that it should be an economy of opportunity as well as of abundance; that it should provide for security, but in such way as to strengthen incentives to individual initiative and expand opportunities for business enterprise . . . It is fundamental, however, that none of these things is possible unless productive jobs can be provided for the vast majority of those seeking employment

The article surveys the possibilities for employment after the war on the basis of the employable people, productivity per man-hour, and on the possible total demand for goods. Productivity per man-hour is a familiar subject to Technocrats who have pioneered this approach to the social problem.

The Nation turned out more goods and services in 1940 than in any previous year. Yet of the total available manpower only 46,000,000 were employed and 8,000,000 were unemployed. In addition, millions of those employed were eking out an existence on sub-marginal farms and in other highly unproductive occupations.

Thus the civilian labor force was 54.9 million people in 1940. This total was decreased to 54.4 in 1941, and was down to 52.3 millions in February 1943. (The decrease is due to those being drained

off to the Armed Forces.) The survey estimates that by 1946 the civilian labor force will be increased to 57.5 millions. This figure of 57.5 millions does not include those in the Armed Forces, but it includes everyone who works or is seeking work.

When the estimated increase in output per man-hour (2.5 percent per year) is applied to this increased labor force it is calculated that the potential output of this force in 1946 could be 46 percent above what it was in 1940. In conclusion the report states:

Because of this growth trend the Nation's output after the war must substantially exceed the 1940 level if unemployment is to be held within reasonable bounds. If the output in 1946 should be no more than in 1940, and assuming the same hours of work as in 1940, there would be the 8,900,000 unemployed who were unemployed in 1940 plus the 2,600,000 increase in the civilian labor force between 1940 and 1946, plus about 8,000,000 who would be displaced by improvements in efficiency over the 6-year period. This is a total of over 19,000,000.

Even with the average work-week 5 hours shorter than in 1940 there would be more unemployed than in 1932 at the last depression depth. Pump-priming by National debt originated the pump priming and this emergency pump priming has continued at an increasing rate ever since. The transition will demand a bigger shot in the arm than depression or war ever did. This is what the postwar planners are worried about!

The above resume is NOT to be regarded as a prediction of Technocracy's regarding unemployment in 1946. When such a prediction is made by Technocracy, it will be made upon more certain grounds and by using more exact measurements. In this instance we have merely quoted the procedure used by the Department of Commerce to arrive at a conclusion.

This condition can be remedied, but not by any type of control that demands scarcity of men, machines, materiel and money. Scarcity of any of these things in America is a thing of the past. From now on we enter an era of abundance, willy nilly, and our controls must be designed to operate without scarcity, value, price, wages, taxes, rent, interest, business, or profit. Abundance will not tolerate their existence.

—W. E. Walter, M.A.L., O.S.

NORTHWEST TECHNOCRAT

CONTENTS

Vol. 9, No. 3	Whole No. 99	
		Page
Worth While to the Growers	2	
Technology's Transition Decree	3	
Lektron	6	
The Big Show	9	
Total Conscription—The Advance	12	
Behind the Lines	15	
Small Business and Labor in the Same Boat	16	
Technocracy—America's Only Social Dynamic	19	
Technocracy's Sound Cars in Action.....	23	
A Record of Futility	24	

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Technocracy's Sound Cars in Action

A Technocracy Sound Car leads the parade in the Fifth War Loan Drive. Tacoma, July 1st, 1944.

Three Technocracy Sections, 12247-7, Tacoma; 12247-6, Puyallup; and 12247-3, Seattle, joined in entertaining more than 200 service men with a big picnic at Spanaway Lake, near Tacoma, on August 13th.



—Techphotos by Barnes.



Sound equipment on a Gray Car makes the speaker's talk more effective.

A young officer reaches for some Technocracy literature while others entertain the assemblage with music.



A RECORD OF FUTILITY

NEVER have political parties in any nation had such a golden opportunity to present to their people a designed strategy for the conduct of national affairs as have the Republicans and the Democrats in their Chicago Conventions. And never have two great political parties so utterly and completely muffed their historical opportunities.

Not once did either the Democrats or the Republicans mention fascism. Apparently neither the Democrats nor the Republicans realize that a war is being fought around the globe to defeat the armies of the axis pact of fascism, a war wherein thousands of Americans have already fought and died that fascism shall be swept from the face of the earth. No speaker on the floor of either Convention exhorted his fellow delegates to fight the war against fascism to final victory. Anyone listening to the radio speeches of each Convention would have been given only one impression—that United States was fighting World War II for the sole purpose of making the world safe for free enterprise.

The Republicans were careful, as were the Democrats, **NOT TO GUARANTEE FULL EMPLOYMENT OR FULL PRODUCTION OR A HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING IN THESE UNITED STATES**; in fact the Republican Party in Convention assembled arrived at that wonderful conclusion where they guaranteed the citizens of United States **EXACTLY NOTHING**. The political gutless wonders of the twentieth century.

—Continental Headquarters
Technocracy Inc., August 1944.

(Section Stamp)

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